

Message Text

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62

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DRAFTED BY EUR/ CAN: DRTHOMSON: MGS

03/13/73 EXT 22135

APPROVED BY EUR: RZSMITH

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R 131758 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

INFO AMCONSUL VANCOUVER

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: SENV, ENRG, CA

SUBJ: BARRETT PROPOSAL FOR TRANSPORT OF ALASKAN OIL

1. PREMIER BARRETT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA MET MARCH 12 WITH ACTING SECRETARY INTERIOR JOHN C. WHITAKER AND SET FORTH HIS PROPOSAL TO MOVE ALASKAN OIL TO US MARKETS VIA RAIL OVER PERMAFROST AND VIA PIPELINE SOUTH OF PERMAFROST UNDER PROJECT TO BE FINANCED WITH PUBLIC FUNDS. RUFUS Z. SMITH (EUR) ATTENDED MEETING.

2. ACTING SECRETARY WHITAKER ADVISED BARRETT THAT USG REMAINED COMMITTED TO TRANS- ALASKA PIPELINE AS FIRST STAGE DEVELOPMENT NORTH SLOPE OIL AND GAS. USG, NEVER-THELESS, WOULD BE WILLING CONSIDER BARRETT PROPOSAL, AMONG OTHERS, AS POSSIBLE BASIS FOR SECOND STAGE. IN THAT CONNECTION WE WOULD OF COURSE WANT TO KNOW VIEWS OF CANADIAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ON PROPOSAL. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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